

# DIGITAL COAST CONNECTIONS



February 2019

## New Data, New Resources



### Digital Coast

- **Quick Reference** – [Risk Communication Strategy Template](#)
- **Publication** – [Building Ecosystem Services Conceptual Models](#)
- **Data** – See [the list](#) of new and updated data sets



### Office for Coastal Management

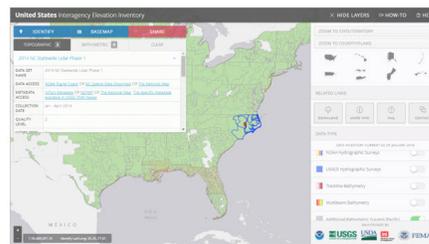
- New [status report](#) on the health of corals for the Pacific U.S. states and territories

## Tech Topics

### Got Lidar?

Searching for any type of data can lead down a confusing path filled with questions about quality, quantity, and sources. Lidar data, a hot commodity in the data world, are available from a variety of sources, but searching through a large number of sites is time consuming.

Enter our recommendation—start with the two superheroes of lidar websites. The U.S. Geological Survey's National Map allows for [specific](#) or bulk



A query for available data in North Carolina provides the user with a list of data sets and per data set, multiple ways to access the data.

downloads of lidar data and covers the entire nation. Another good resource: [NOAA's Digital Coast](#). This site curates data from a variety of sources, allows for custom processing, and then serves it from one easy-to-use website for either custom or bulk download.

Read this [blog](#) or email NOAA's [Rebecca Mataosky](#) if you want to know more.

## Stories from Your Peers

### Expanding Coastal Opportunities for People with Disabilities

Throughout the nation's coastal zone, state programs are breaking down barriers to coastal access. Three New England research reserves worked with Deaf-community teachers and interpreters to add the words "estuary" and "watershed" to American Sign Language. These reserves are also hosting field trips for students from schools for the deaf. Meanwhile, the Nation's Coastal Zone Management Programs are making trails more accessible for all in Puerto Rico and California and improving water access in Virginia and Mississippi. Both the research reserves and coastal programs are working to make their restrooms compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. NOAA and its partners believe everyone deserves to enjoy the coasts and estuaries!



- Read the [full story](#).
- Learn more about the [Coastal Zone Management Program](#) and the [National Estuarine Research Reserves](#).

## Tips from the Digital Coast Academy

### Flood Assessment Tool for Stormwater Systems

Increasing coastal flooding poses a unique challenge for community stormwater management systems. Inundation from high tides and storm surge can partially or completely submerge stormwater pipes and outfalls, causing backups that contribute to street-level flooding. The combination of rainfall runoff and coastal flooding translates into more widespread or prolonged inundation than what normally occurs when these events happen independently.

To effectively tackle this complex issue, communities need to know when they should expect to see coastal flooding, how long it will last, and how this might compromise their stormwater management systems. "[Adapting Stormwater Management for Coastal Floods](#)" is a web-based decision-support resource that provides timely and relevant information to address these concerns.

## Fast Facts



## Natural Infrastructure



Wetlands and reefs  
and mangroves...oh my!



Billions in savings (\$23 billion/year),  
services (water quality and storm protection),  
and value (37% higher property value).

This is just one of the many coastal management [fast facts and graphics](#) provided for your use. See the [list](#) here, and let us know if you have others you'd like to see added.

## It's Not Too Late to Register for Coastal GeoTools

Join coastal professionals and geospatial specialists from a variety of sectors, and around the country, to discuss geospatial data, tools, technology, and information for coastal resource professionals at the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the [Coastal GeoTools conference](#). There's still time to [register](#) to join the Association of State Floodplain Managers February 11 through 14, 2019 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

### Feedback? Please!

This newsletter is created for coastal professionals dedicated to keeping coastal communities safe and productive. Please provide any feedback you may have to [coastal.info@noaa.gov](mailto:coastal.info@noaa.gov)



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*NOAA's Digital Coast*



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